

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7-18 and 20-30 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 2-6 and 19 are canceled herein. Claims 24-30 have been allowed. Independent claims 1, 16 and 18, and dependent claims 7-15, 17 and 20-23 have been amended to recite limitations deemed allowable by the Examiner as shown at pages 2-8 of this Reply.

The herein amendments to the claims are believed to place this application in condition for allowance. It is noted that applicants' representative does not agree with the rejections of the subject claims in view of the deficiencies of the cited art, and intends to pursue original versions of these claims in a continuation application.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP249US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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